

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 8 without my signature.

I continue to support reforming the school finance system to make it less complex and more transparent to parents, teachers, and the public. However, this bill merely authorizes the convening of yet another working group that can be accomplished without statutory authorization. I am concerned that this bill provides the appearance of activity without actually translating to achievement. The lack of urgency in voting on the substantive issues put forth in the education Special Session can be seen as yet another example of that appearance. Since nothing under current law prohibits the objectives of this bill from being met, it is unnecessary.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger